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Sustainable development

Peru: draft resolution

Developmental benefits of biodiversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 3 to 14 June 1992,[1] and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,[2]

Recalling also its resolutions 55/201 of 20 December 2000, 64/203 of 21 December 2009 and 65/161 of 20 December 2010 and all other previous resolutions relating to the importance of biodiversity for humankind,

Recalling further that the Convention on Biological Diversity[3] is the key international instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to those technologies, and by appropriate funding,

Recalling that the decennium 2011-2020 has been declared the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity,

Noting the interrelationship between genetic resources and traditional knowledge, their inseparable nature for indigenous and local communities and the importance of traditional knowledge for the conservation of biodiversity and the

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

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sustainable use of its components and the sustainable livelihoods of those communities,

Recalling the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its tenth meeting of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[4]

Noting with appreciation the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its tenth meeting of the updated and revised Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets,[5]

Expressing grave concern at the potential loss of biodiversity, and drawing attention to the fact that continued biodiversity loss can have a particularly adverse impact on the poor and other populations that depend on natural resources,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;[6]

2. *Reaffirms* the intrinsic value of biological diversity, as well as the ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational, environmental and aesthetic values of biological diversity and its components, taking into account their importance for sustainable development;

3. *Also reaffirms* the positive impact of the achievement of the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, access to genetic resources based on prior informed consent of the provider of those resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources or from the use of traditional knowledge associated to them for sustainable development, poverty eradication and the improvement of human well-being and as a major factor underpinning the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, at national and local levels;

4. *Further reaffirms* the sovereign rights of States to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental policies and that national ownership and leadership are indispensable in the development process;

5. *Reiterates its concern* at the potential loss of biodiversity and ecosystem degradation, which imposes long-term damage and economic costs that have an adverse impact on the poor and other populations that depend on natural resources and compromises sustained growth for future generations, and notes in this regard that it is vital to anticipate, prevent and respond to those factors;

6. *Recalls* that the conservation of biodiversity makes a critical contribution in reducing the negative impacts of climate change by making ecosystems more resilient and conserving their capacity to provide essential services;

7. *Recalls also* the contribution of the sustainable use of biodiversity components to the achievement of economic, social and environmentally sustainable

[4] See UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex, decision X/1.

[5] Ibid., decision X/2.

[6] See A/66/291, sect. III.

development, and in this regard reaffirms the need to maximize the developmental benefits of biodiversity;

8. *Invites* Member States to consider the impact of the sustainable use of the components and ecosystems of biodiversity at all levels of policymaking, in particular in national developmental policy programmes and investments in all sectors and at all levels towards mainstreaming the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity[3] into poverty eradication and development strategies;

9. *Notes* the consideration of aspects related to the economic valuation of ecosystems and biodiversity in the context of the work of the Convention, including *The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity* reports, as referred to in the relevant decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its tenth meeting,[7] and encourages further studies in this regard;

10. *Encourages* all Parties to the Convention which have not yet done so to promptly sign and ratify the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity;[4]

11. *Requests* Member States to improve their cooperation in the area of technology transfer and capacity-building for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in particular with regard to innovation capacities for adding value to genetic resources in developing countries, through South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation mechanisms, including voluntary innovative financing mechanisms and public-private partnerships;

12. *Encourages* Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental bodies, relevant non-governmental organizations, major groups and all relevant stakeholders participating in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to integrate the socio-economic impacts and benefits of the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of its components into their contributions on sustainable development;

13. *Invites* all Member States, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations:

(a) To raise public awareness of the importance of mainstreaming the three objectives of the Convention into poverty eradication and development strategies;

(b) To ensure an effective integration of sustainable practices for the conservation of biological diversity and the use of its components, including traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, in accordance with the Convention and its Nagoya Protocol, in the formulation of national policies, legislation, administrative measures and international cooperation to prevent any misuse, misappropriation or improper exploitation of those resources;

(c) To raise public awareness of the importance of promoting equity and fairness in negotiations of mutually agreed terms concerning the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization and commercialization of genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with them, in accordance with

[7] See UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex.

applicable national legislation, between providers and users of genetic resources and traditional knowledge;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session, under the agenda item entitled "Sustainable development", a sub-item entitled "Developmental benefits of biodiversity".